

APPLICATION TO CONDUCT A ONE DAY BASS TOURNAMENT ON
MAINE AND NEW HAMPSHIRE BORDER WATERS

WEIGH-TOURNAMENT ☐ \$52.00 OPEN ☐ CATCH MEASURE &
or RELEASE TOURNAMENT ☐ \$12.00
CLUB ☐

Name of Club or Organization

Name of individual making application _____ Tel: _____ (Daytime)

Address _____

Name of aquatic plant & livewell inspector _____ (Daytime Tel:)

Name of aquatic plant & livewell inspector _____ (Daytime Tel:)

The above named bass fishing club desires to hold a one-day tournament on:

BODY OF WATER

TOWN

COUNTY

Location of weigh-in station: _____

We desire to hold this tournament from _____ a.m. to _____ p.m. on _____
Date

Weigh-In tournaments are not permitted from May 15 to June 30 (dates inclusive).

If for any reason this permit is not granted, the permit fee will be returned. Each day is considered as a separate tournament.

Date

Signature and title of applicant

NOTE: It is a Class E crime to obtain a permit through fraud, misstatement or misrepresentation.
Title 12 MRSA Section 10757. See reverse side for more information.

Make checks payable to: Treasurer, State of Maine. Mail completed application and check to Fisheries Division,
IFW, 41 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333-0041.

Definition of a Bass Club

For purposes of determining eligibility to apply for a permit to conduct a one-day bass tournament, a “bass club” is defined as any organized group of five or more bass anglers which is able to satisfy one of the following criteria:

- Provide current documentation of being a member club in Bass Anglers Sportsman Society (BASS), North East Bass Association (NEBA) or other nationally recognized bass fishing organization; or
- Provide a current listing of club officers and members along with a signed affidavit affirming that the group, although not affiliated with any nationally recognized bass fishing organization, is a bona fide independent fishing club.

General

1. Any bass club which sponsors a one-day bass tournament must submit a completed bass tournament questionnaire, when requested to do so by an agent of the commissioner, provided that such request must be made in writing to the sponsoring club prior to the day of the tournament.
2. Each tournament requires two aquatic plant and livewell inspectors to conduct weed and livewell inspections. Each boat will first be inspected immediately before a tournament participant launches the boat prior to the tournament and for a second time after the boat is retrieved from the water immediately after the conclusion of the tournament for that participant.
3. All anglers in the tournament must possess a valid Maine fishing license unless of an age where a license is not required. (See exception for Maine/New Hampshire border waters in Open Water Fishing Regulations Book)
4. Bass tournament boats must be specifically identified in a plainly visible manner and a roster of participants must be available at the location of the weigh-in.
5. Only one permit will be issued on a waterbody for a specific date.
6. All fishing will be restricted to artificial lures.
7. Weigh-in tournaments are not permitted on bodies of water less than or equal to 500 acres.
8. A copy of the tournament permit and a copy of the rules affecting one-day tournaments shall be conspicuously displayed during each tournament at a location accessible to all tournament contestants.
9. There shall be a separate permit for Open and Club tournaments. Club tournaments are limited to a maximum participation of 15 boats. Open tournaments are limited to 35 acres per boat with a maximum of 100 boats. Youth tournaments will be scheduled in cooperation with IF&W and no permit will be required.

CATCH/MEASURER/RELEASE TOURNAMENTS / WEIGH-IN TOURNAMENTS

1. In Catch/Measure/Release tournaments, all bass caught must be immediately released to the location from which caught.
2. Weigh-In tournaments are not permitted from May 15 to June 30 (dates inclusive).
3. In Weigh-In tournaments, all bass caught shall be kept in a water-circulating live-well with the intent to keep the retained bass alive. All bass entered for the weigh-in at bass tournaments shall be returned to the water from which it is caught as follows: In lakes and ponds, not less than 300 feet away from the shoreline; in rivers at mid-channel not less than 300 feet away from the weigh-in site. Boats designated by the bass tournament sponsor may hold more than the daily limit of bass solely for the purpose of releasing bass after weigh-in.
4. In weigh-in tournaments, the daily limit shall be 2 bass per participant from April 1 – May 14 with no minimum length or weight limit. The daily limit shall be 5 bass per participant from July 1 – November 30 with no minimum length or weight limit.
5. The total cash value of prizes for single-day tournaments shall not exceed \$25,000.
6. The Commissioner has the authority to put any condition necessary on any tournament to assure that appropriate measures are taken to protect biological resources and address social concerns.
7. There will be no more than ten weigh-in tournaments on any water greater than 500 acres, only four of which may be open tournaments.